

Appl. No. 10/771,385
Amdt. Dated May 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated April 10, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for guiding a hand-held power saw, the apparatus comprising:
 - a) a platform having an upper face and a lower face, said upper face operative to receive a downward force and said lower face operative to engage a workpiece;
 - b) two spaced apart parallel runners extending perpendicularly from said lower face of said platform, each of said runners extending longitudinally across said platform and beyond said platform;
 - c) a first guiding strip situated in a plane parallel to said platform when said first guiding strip is in engagement with said runners, said first guiding strip traversing said runners at a first predetermined angle;

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- d) a first guiding edge situated on a side of said first guiding strip, said first guiding edge operative to guide ~~the~~ a base of a hand-held power saw in a straight line at said first pre-determined angle;
- e) a second guiding strip situated in a plane parallel to said platform when said second guiding strip is in engagement with said runners, said second guiding strip traversing said runners at a second pre-determined angle; and
- f) a second guiding edge situated on a side of said second guiding strip, said second guiding edge operative to guide the base of ~~a~~ a the hand-held power saw in a straight line at said second pre-determined angle;

wherein said runners are operative to elevate said platform from a work surface, to guide and engage an elongated edge of the workpiece, and to support and position the base of ~~a~~ a the hand-held power saw in the plane of the upper surface of the workpiece.

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2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said first pre-determined angle is ninety
degrees.
3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2,
wherein said second pre-determined angle is forty-five
degrees.
4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said second guiding strip is movable to a
position in which said second guiding strip engages
and transverses said runners at a third pre-determined
angle.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said third pre-determined angle is an angle of
sixty degrees.
7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said first guiding strip and said second
guiding strip each extend across said runners and
beyond either side thereof to allow each of said first
guiding edge and said second guiding edge to guide the
base of the hand-held power saw in a straight line

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prior to the blade of the hand-held power saw engaging the workpiece, as the blade cuts through the workpiece, and until the blade entirely leaves the workpiece.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises peg-locks, and said platform has peg-lock holes that allow the insertion of said peg-locks, said peg-locks operative to hold the workpiece in place to prevent lateral movement of the workpiece.
9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein each of said peg-locks has an inserting portion which is passable through the peg-lock holes, said inserting portion having a cross-section with a flat edge, said flat edge operative to engage the workpiece.
10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said cross-section is semi-circular in shape.
11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said each of said peg-locks has a shoulder at one end, said shoulder operative to sit on said upper face of said platform to prevent said each of said

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peg-locks from passing entirely through the peg-lock holes in said platform.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said platform has at least one row of at least two peg-lock holes, each said row running parallel to said runners.
13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said platform has a first said row distanced 1.5 inches from a first of said runners.
14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said platform has a second said row distanced 3.5 inches from said first of said runners.
15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is made of injection-moulded plastic.
16. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is made of wood.
17. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is made of metal.

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18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said platform and said runners form one piece.
19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8,
wherein said peg-locks are made of injection-moulded
plastic.
20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said second guiding strip engages said runners
to form said second pre-determined angle such that
said second guiding strip engages a first of said
runners at a first engagement point and a second of
said runners at a second engagement point, and wherein
said second guiding strip engages said runners to form
said third pre-determined angle such that said second
guiding strip engages said first of said runners at
said first engagement point and said second of said
runners at a third engagement point.
21. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising:
- a) said runners having engaging holes on their
upper surfaces;
 - b) said guiding strips having engaging notches
on their lower surfaces; and

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c) pegs operative to each insert into one of the engaging holes and one of the engaging notches, said pegs operative to hold said guiding strips in engagement with said runners.

22. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said guiding strips and said runners have complementary holes and engaging extensions, the holes and said engaging extensions operative to hold said guiding strips in engagement with said runners.

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said platform has five edges such that said first guiding strip aligns with a first edge of said platform when said first guiding strips is in engagement with said runners at said first pre-determined angle, and said second guiding strip aligns with a second edge of said platform when said second guiding strip is in engagement with said runners at said second pre-determined angle, ~~and wherein said second guiding strip aligns with a third edge of said platform when said second guiding strip is in engagement with said runners at said third pre-determined angle.~~

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24. (Original.) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said runners extend across and beyond either side of said first guiding strip when said first guiding strip engages said runners at said first pre-determined angle, and extend across and beyond either side of said second guiding strip when said second guiding strip engages said runners at either of said second pre-determined angle and said third pre-determined angle.
25. (Currently amended). The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said runners extend a first distance "x" perpendicular to said first guiding edge and ~~distal to~~ beyond a first edge of said platform, and a second distance "y" perpendicular to said second guiding edge ~~and distal to said platform~~ when said second guiding strip is in the position in which it traverses said runners at said second predetermined angle, and wherein said first distance and second distance are ~~each no greater than the~~ less than a shortest distance from the edge of the base of the hand-held power saw to the blade of the hand-held power saw, ~~less than~~ less than inches.

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26. (Cancelled)

27. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 9,
wherein each of said peg-locks has a head situated at
one end of said each of said peg-locks, said head
comprising:

a) extensions extending perpendicularly to the
longitudinal axis of said each of said peg-locks;
and

b) a flat surface, said flat surface being situated in
plane with said flat edge;

wherein said extensions each have an edge that forms a
portion of said flat surface.

28. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 27,
wherein said head is operative to rest on the work
surface and wherein said flat surface is operative to
engage the workpiece to prevent lateral movement of
the workpiece.

29. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 28,
wherein said extensions are operative to sit on said
upper face of said platform to prevent said each of

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said peg-locks from passing entirely through the peg-lock holes in said platform.

30. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said runners extend perpendicularly from said lower surface of said platform a distance of $1 \frac{3}{8}$ inches.
31. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein inner sides of said runners, each of said inner sides facing the other of said inner sides, have between them a distance of $5 \frac{5}{8}$ inches.